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April 14, 2003

Mr. Gary N. Hamby
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
U.S. Bank Plaza
980 9th Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. Leslie T. Rogers
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration
201 Mission Street, Suite 2210
San Francisco, CA 94105

Attention: Ms. Sue Kiser

Attention: Mr. Ray Sukys

Dear Ms. Kiser and Mr. Sukys:

With this letter and pursuant to the authority delegated to me, I approve the following Amendment of the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments' (SBCAG) 2002/03-2004/05 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP):

- | <u>No.</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|------------|---|
| 5 | Transit Element <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Modifies "Hybrid-Electric Bus Enhancement (MPO ID: 0014)" project for the Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District (SBMTD). The amendment reduces the total number of buses to be acquired from 25 (20 replacement, 5 expansion) to 23 (20 replacement, 3 expansion). This project includes funding from the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program and Federal Transit administration (FTA) Section 5309 Program. See enclosure.• Provides additional local funding for the "South Coast Transit Priorities" project for SBMTD originally programmed in the 2000 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP). The Amendment also reduces scope to acquisition of 11 buses for service expansion, 14 electric replacement buses, 2 electric shuttles, 55 enhanced fareboxes and installation of 4 superstops. |
- See enclosure.

I recommend that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and FTA approve this FTIP Amendment No. 5 for inclusion into California's 2002/03-2004/05 FSTIP. Even though the programming for the "South Coast Transit Priorities" project is not within the triennial cycle of the current FSTIP and all federal funds on this project have already been obligated, I recommend FHWA and FTA to approve inclusion of this project into FSTIP to reflect proper scope and total project cost.

The updated programming has been found by SBCAG to conform to applicable air quality regulations. Therefore, this FTIP Amendment is consistent with the State Implementation Plan. The financial impacts of this amendment are compatible with anticipated revenues in the FSTIP Financial Plan and do not significantly affect the overall financial analysis. These projects are not listed in the California Transportation Improvement Program System (CTIPS).

In accordance with existing law, public involvement procedures are a part of the project selection process. The SBCAG prepared this FTIP Amendment under that process permitting citizens, affected local agencies, other public agencies, and other interested parties reasonable opportunity for comment.

Please address any questions on this FSTIP approval request to Abhijit Bagde of my staff, at (916) 654-3638.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

JIM NICHOLAS

Chief

Division of Transportation Programming

Enclosures

c: Mark Brucker - EPA Office of Air Planning (w/enclosure)
William Derrick - Santa Barbara County Association of Governments
Jim Kemp - Santa Barbara County Association of Governments
Abhijit Bagde - Caltrans

bc: FFalakfarsa - Local Assistance
KBalaji - Federal Pgms
JNicholas
Programming Files
SChesebro - D 5 (Program Mgmt.)
HBuu - Federal Aid (w/enclosures)
RZhang - Local Assistance (w/enclosures)
FTIP Binder (w/original)